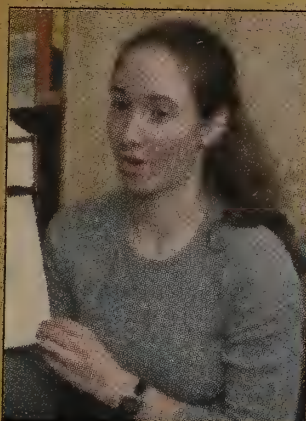


SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

FEBRUARY 22, 1999

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Candidates address issues

By Lisa Wilhelm

The candidates for the upcoming Doon Student Association elections delivered their speeches in The Sanctuary on Feb. 11 to a less than attentive crowd of Conestoga College students.

Mike Harris, chief returning officer, began by introducing the candidates for this year's election. The first to give her speech was Jennifer Harron, who is one of

two candidates running for vice-president of education.

Harron, whose slogan is "My issues are your issues," is a student in the general arts and science program, who is switching to the computer programmer analyst program. She has represented her class by sitting on the college's board of directors. She has also been involved in many DSA events over the past year.

Harron said she is concerned that tuition increases every year and OSAP does not reflect this.

She said she is also concerned that students cannot earn more than \$600 if they have received OSAP funding.

Harron said she feels she is qualified for the position because she has made efforts to research problems that students encounter.

The second of the two candidates running for vice-president of education spoke next.

Rebecca Slaughter, who is an early childhood education student, gave her speech in the form of a story book, which told of her life experiences and reasons why she thinks she would be the best person for the position.

The book revealed how she gained independence as an only child, but works well on a team.



Rebecca Slaughter, first-year early childhood education student, presented her candidate speech in the form of a story book outlining her life and her desire to become DSA vice-president of education.

(Photo by Lisa Wilhelm)

Slaughter said her difficulties with OSAP and getting involved in such things as the board of governors at the college has allowed her to get to know the people on the DSA executive and this led to her decision to run for vice-president of education.

Slaughter said she wants to work for Conestoga students to improve their, and her, future.

The acclaimed candidates then gave short speeches. These

included Steve Coleman, vice-president of student affairs, Brian Bambrick on behalf of Jenn Hussey, vice-president of operations and Ellen Menage, president.

Slaughter and Harron then answered questions about the issues they plan to deal with, if elected.

Harris ended the meeting by reminding everyone to go out and vote.

Miscommunication blamed for mishap

DSA elections spark controversy

By Lindsay Gibson

First-year accounting student Zlatko Lakoseljic who wanted to run for vice-president of student affairs was told just before the election speeches, held on Feb. 11, that he would not be allowed to run.

Lakoseljic approached the DSA two weeks ago and was told to submit a list of 50 signatures before the speeches were held and he could run. But, according to Mike Harris, chief returning officer for the DSA elections, Lakoseljic was misinformed.

"Anybody can run," he said, "as long as they follow the rules."

DSA president Kristin Murphy said the DSA constitution sets out

strict election rules and Lakoseljic did not meet the appropriate guidelines. These specific guidelines are published in the Conestoga student handbook.

Nominations were open from Jan. 18 at 9 a.m. until Jan. 27 at noon. To be nominated a student had to acquire a list of 50 nomination signatures from students at the college. The successful candidates would then attend a candidates' meeting on Jan. 28 and could begin their campaigning Jan. 29 at 4 p.m. Campaigns ran until Feb. 12 at 4 p.m.

Lakoseljic came to school Feb. 11 with a prepared speech and 36 posters ready to run for the

position, but because he did not follow the election process, he was told it was not possible for him to run.

Lakoseljic was told he could not run just before the speeches began and his discussion with members of the DSA executive created a commotion at the back of the Sanctuary during the election speeches.

Lakoseljic, who is a member of the Condors indoor soccer team, said he just wanted a chance to run.

"I just want them to put my name on the ballot and if I get zero votes then I do. I just want the chance," he said.

Lakoseljic said he didn't think the DSA took him seriously, but

he says he is sincere and would like to do something for the college.

"I think if people saw someone like me on DSA, it would make other people get more involved," he said.

According to Harris, Lakoseljic's list of signatures would not have been valid even if he had gotten it in before the deadline because the names were not accompanied by student numbers, something required to validate the list.

"If you want to be on student council you have to be somewhat organized," said Harris who did not know Lakoseljic was interested in running until the day of the speeches.

Executive looking into installing security cameras in Sanctuary

By Melissa Dietrich

The Doon Student Association is considering installing surveillance cameras in the Sanctuary and the DSA office to stop theft and vandalism.

Jenn Hussey, DSA's vice-president of operations, said they suspect money has been stolen from the DSA office.

Hussey said the administrative assistant, Janie Rowley, is responsible for the cash register in the office and at the end of the day, she takes the money and puts it in a designated spot and then locks it.

Keys for the different areas of the office are kept in a cabinet which Rowley locks but two weeks ago she came in one morning and the area that holds the money was found unlocked.

Because the cash register had jammed, Rowley had been unable to do a printout of the sales done the day before.

Hussey said Rowley believes she had done more sales the day before than the cash balance that day indicates.

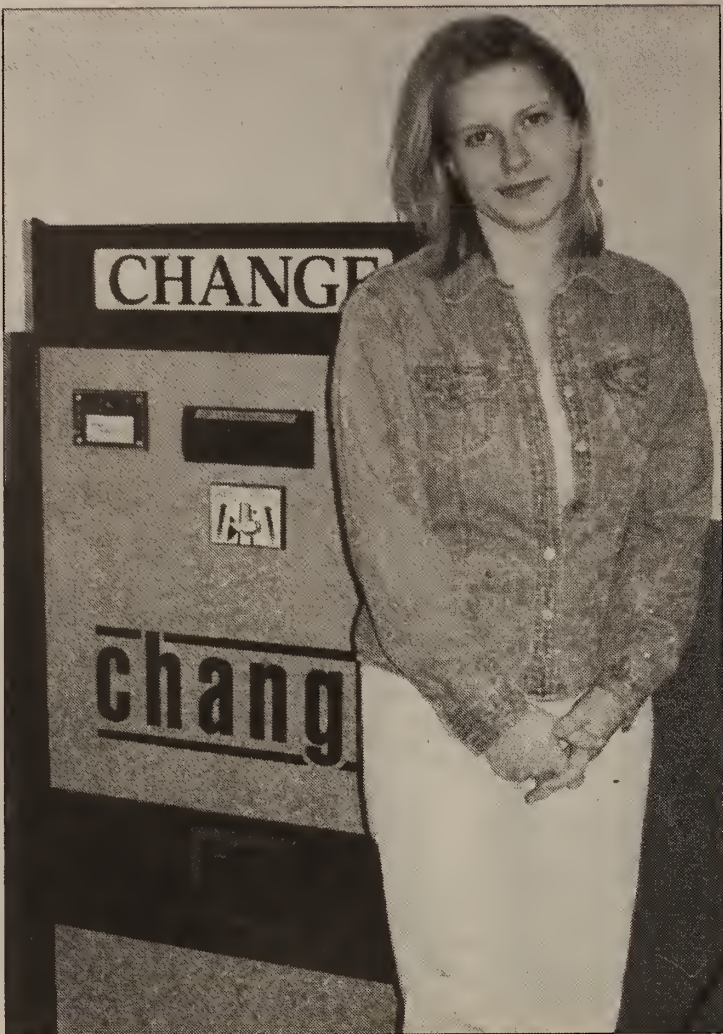
"We didn't know the exact amount of money that was supposed to be in the till," she said. "We can't say exactly for sure that money was stolen or how much."

Hussey said the DSA also suspects alcohol was stolen from the office between Feb. 4 and Feb. 8, the weekend of the outdoor camping event.

The lock on the change machine in the Sanctuary was also found broken.

During the Feb. 9 DSA meeting, the executive discussed bolting the change machine to the floor to prevent any further theft.

Four bar stools were stolen Jan. 19, the night of the DSA's spaghetti dinner and comedian



Jenn Hussey, DSA's vice-president of operations, discussed the suspicious thefts and the increase in vandalism in the DSA office and Sanctuary where the change machine has been broken into.

(Photo by Melissa Dietrich)

show. The television converter is also missing.

During one of the Tuesday DSA executive meetings, which are held in The Other Room, the executive heard a noise similar to an aerosol hairspray can going off coming from the lounge.

"It turns out somehow, somebody kicked off or removed the thermostat box and it was pushing out the pressure," she said.

Vandals also do damage to the

foose ball and air hockey tables on a weekly basis.

"People are just being too rough with the equipment," said Hussey.

Another concern is the number of students who get into the Sanctuary after 7 p.m., when security locks all the doors and sets the alarm.

"If you've got six kids hanging out in the Sanctuary after hours, it is easier for them to walk out with things," she said.

DSA to help group with transit problem

By Melissa Dietrich

A guest speaker who discussed the possibilities of a linked transit system between Kitchener and Cambridge was among the items on the agenda for the Doon Student Association (DSA) meeting on Feb. 9.

Maryann Wasilka of Kitchener asked for support from the DSA in the form of a presentation that would go before both the Kitchener and Cambridge city councils.

Wasilka said the group of concerned citizens she represents approached both cities who are looking into this issue, however, it remains in the talking stage.

DSA president Kristin Murphy and the director of student and recreation services, Jack Fletcher, told Wasilka that last year they also approached the two mayors but were unsuccessful in their attempts to get the cities to link the transit systems for the benefit of Conestoga students.

Fletcher said he agreed this was a good cause and he would be willing to support Wasilka and her group.

Other items on the agenda included an update on some possible forthcoming events by DSA's entertainment manager Patty Stokes.

One event is the battle of the bands, which Stokes said the DSA is looking into holding at the Walper Hotel in Kitchener on March 24.

Another possible year-end event the DSA is considering is bringing in hypnotist Tony Lee who was at Conestoga last year.

The possibility of the DSA offering an opt-out dental plan, similar to the opt-out health plan

currently offered to students, was also discussed during the meeting.

DSA's vice-president of student affairs, Gerry Cleaves, who has been looking into the details of this plan, agreed with the remainder of the executive that further consideration of the dental plan should wait until after the DSA election on Feb. 18.

A referendum question on the dental plan will appear on the election ballots.

During the meeting the DSA passed a motion to spend approximately \$700 on six jackets for the walk safe program.

Fletcher said he agreed this was a good cause and he would be willing to support Wasilka and her group.

The executive also decided to donate \$95 to the Meningitis Research Foundation of Canada, who are having a Backstreet Boys and Spice Girls tribute concert at Lulu's in Kitchener on March 20.

Becky Boertien, the DSA's director of student life, reported the office personnel suspect money is missing from the DSA office.

She said she believes it happened over the weekend of Feb. 6-7.

The executive is looking into installing security cameras in the Sanctuary following reports of theft and vandalism.

The next DSA meeting will take place on Feb. 16.

Doon Student Association Annual Awards



Criteria for Awards

Certificate of Appreciation - The Recipients of this award are members of the College Community whose contribution to college life has been significant.

Award of Distinction - The recipients of this award are members of the College Community who contribution to college life has been outstanding.

Award of Excellence - The highest award presented by the Doon Student Association in recognition and appreciation of outstanding leadership and involvement in college life.

Doon Student Association Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

☐ Student Program: _____ Year: _____
☐ Faculty School: _____
☐ Staff/Administration Dept.: _____

Award Nominated for:

- ☐ Certificate of Appreciation
- ☐ Award of Distinction
- ☐ Award of Excellence

The above named nominee has made the following contributions to College Life at Conestoga:



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COME TO STUDENT SERVICES (2B02)



Even after you're gone

Tax return may catch up with you

By Jacqueline Smith

Students who receive money from the Ontario Student Assistance Program often find a student loan is not enough to cover their basic needs while they attend school. Many work at part-time jobs to supplement their incomes.

These students must keep track of their maximum earnings however, since it can affect their student loans.

Prior to two years ago, students receiving OSAP were allowed a maximum income of \$1,500 for each school year without their loan being affected.

According to Carol Walsh, the financial aid administrator at Conestoga, students are now allowed to earn a maximum of only \$600 for a two-semester year.

Walsh said once students go over the limit their loans are affected. She said earnings in excess of \$600 are considered to be a resource by the government.

"The maximum students are allowed to work should be a lot higher," Walsh said.

Even students with families are permitted to earn only \$600 and this limit almost removes the incentive for students on OSAP to

work, said Walsh.

"The feedback we are getting is, 'Why should I bother to work?'"

While Walsh is not sure if the ministry will increase the amount a student on OSAP can earn for the start of the next school year, she is hoping the \$600 will be increased to at least \$1,500.

"We are having ongoing discussions with the ministry requesting them to increase the amount to something more realistic," Walsh said.

Some students try to hide their total income when applying for OSAP, Walsh said, but Revenue Canada conducts income verification every November.

"So, any student who did not declare earnings on their OSAP application form, but shows earnings on their income tax return, that information will be captured," Walsh said.

She said these students will receive a letter from the ministry asking them to provide proof of income earned within a certain period of the year.

"If the student earned money during their study period that was not declared on their loan application form, their OSAP entitlement for the following year will be reduced," she said.

Students in their final year are not exempted. Walsh said an overpayment would affect graduating students entitled to a loan forgiveness or future funding for students who decide to continue their education.

Whether it's a car or a RRSP contribution, students receiving OSAP are expected to declare all assets, which is viewed as a dollar-for-dollar contribution, Walsh said.

"For example, if a student has a \$1,000 GIC, \$1,000 would be deducted from their OSAP entitlement," she said.

Students are allowed to claim a vehicle to the value of \$5,000. Anything above this amount will be deducted from their entitlement with the exception of married students, sole support students and students with a disability.

"Married, sole support and students on disability are allowed to have a vehicle to the value of \$10,000," Walsh said, adding this is not done automatically on the loan application form. She said these students have to meet with



Carol Walsh, Conestoga's financial aid administrator, wants to see the maximum earnings allowable for OSAP students increased.

(Photo by Jacqueline Smith)

someone in the financial aid office and file an appeal.

Walsh said students are advised to use the red book retail value. The red book is available at a public library or at the Ministry of Transportation's office. She said the red book provides the lowest

value that one can receive for their vehicle when declaring the value of vehicles on the OSAP form.

"We all think that our vehicle is worth more than it probably is. The red book (value) is probably one that no one wants to know," she said.

DSA plans for excess funds

By Jaime Clark

An exercise room, a quiet study lounge, a used bookstore, a bar or a computer lab are some of the ideas the Doon Student Association has come up with for spending the surplus of funds acquired over the years.

The DSA has reported surpluses of \$30,000-\$40,000 in past years. Money that would be used for such a project has been accumulated this year and last year, and also from about five years ago.

Jenn Hussey, DSA vice-president of operations, said the idea to provide something new for students came about because the excess funds have been accumulated and because there is new space available following the construction of the new addition to the technology wing.

A space allocation committee has been struck to negotiate uses for the newly acquired space.

"We have a small office. The Sanctuary can be used for what it is, but there is potential for other things," said Hussey. "We don't have a quiet study, the storage room that we do have is pretty far away (in the main cafeteria) and we were thinking of having a used bookstore year round." Currently, the DSA holds a used book sale at the beginning of the semesters.

The DSA will conduct a survey to determine what students want, said Hussey.

"Maybe we think a bar would be cool, but students (might) think it's the worst idea."

The DSA developed the survey before Christmas and intended to administer it the first two weeks after the vacation, but a number of circumstances prevented that from happening.

"Hopefully, the plan is to do it (administer the surveys) at the beginning of next year," said Hussey. "It's kind of like backup for us, so we know we're moving in the right direction."

After the DSA determines the students' needs, the executive will evaluate their financial situation. Extra maintenance and repair costs would be considered at this point, said Hussey.

"Then we would take the money and allocate it to what the students want and what we want. Then we will set out the steps to do it," she said.

The steps may include coming up with a three- or five-year plan to spend the excess money. This process has been put on hold until next year, said Hussey.

"We don't want to get something for the DSA because that's not fair, it's the students' money. And, we don't want to throw a big concert party that will only affect the present classes," said Hussey. "We want to do something for all the students."

The possibility of a new bar was also an idea if the DSA is given additional space in the

future. Since the college already has a bar, the Roost in the rec centre, and regulations at Doon campus are restrictive, a bar is a questionable option.

Hussey said the possibility of a quiet study room is a more reasonable expectation.

"Ideally, it would be really cool if we could plan something through the summer and implement it in September, but the chances of that are pretty slim," said Hussey. "We're dealing with getting space and that could take five years."

Hussey said the main issue of getting more space for any of their ideas is the fact that they are taking classroom space from faculty and students. The idea is to have a complete strategic plan concerning what to do with the space, so the DSA isn't allocated a space and doesn't know what to do with it, she said.

"We don't want to sit on our hands. In the future, we could get this space and if we do, we are prepared for it," said Hussey.

That preparation would involve being aware of the rules and regulations governing a study lounge, exercise room or bar on campus.

"I hope we can start the foundation of all that this year coming and get all the information gathered. It's a plan, it's an idea, it's a hope," said Hussey.

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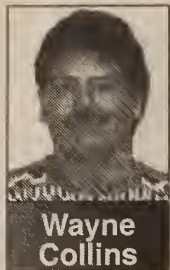
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Tobacco companies suck life out of smokers

Hindsight must be a hard thing for generations of smokers.

Today's young puffers may not know it, but smoking was hot, cool and sexy in the black and white television era. They've never seen dancing Lucky Strike cigarette packages singing the praises of tobacco.

Cigarettes were the crowns and crutches of early Hollywood's "dames" and dapper Dons. When starlets like Marilyn Monroe exhaled grey smoke rings across the big screen, they curled around adoring men's ears. Television



Wayne Collins

performers blew smoke at North American audiences each night as viewers welcomed them into their homes, nightclubs and hospital beds.

Tobacco was as "in" as mom's apple pie, but, unfortunately, our smelly sweetheart was sucking the life from moms, dads and kids everywhere.

Hearts sank like the Titanic when the Canadian Cancer Society linked lung cancer to smoking. Puffers

found themselves standing on crackling ice in the middle of deep lakes.

Quit-smoking gurus made easy money but never really challenged the addiction's psychological power.

Even one-lunged cancer victims hoarded the killer

weed on their deathbeds.

Cigarettes don't dance today, and few people sing of their addiction to them.

Health Canada now pastes bleak promises of early death and much suffering on cigarette packages. Unfortunately, Health Canada's "Big Arguments" department lacks a toddler's savvy and an undertaker's creative flair.

Despite Health Canada, tobacco blew its cool when second-hand haze was proven lethal to unborn fetuses, spouses and total strangers. Armies of non-smokers united and smokers became lepers overnight.

Defeated, they now huddle outside shopping malls and Tim Horton's shops

jingling coins merchants don't miss.

Occasionally, the nicotine "fits" end, for some, with the bittersweet "freedom of a broken cigarette". Diehards, lacking the courage to quit, however, still perish like brave old legionnaires.

Today, uncertainty's haze lingers above the battlegrounds, as parents hope kids will learn right from their parents' wrongs, instead of repeating them. Meanwhile, why do legislators designate storeowners as smoking monitors? If selling to teens is wrong, shouldn't lawmakers ban tobacco crops altogether?

Obviously, deficit reduction is the federal government's

addiction, and the taxes from cigarettes cannot be ignored but dying smokers burn precious health care dollars.

Tobacco tax revenues, after all, still exceed health care savings. Who, other than the governments, would be arrogant enough to decide tobacco companies' sponsorships of sporting events is harmless, when those same sponsors admit tobacco kills?

Ironically, as non-smokers' baby pink lungs exhale hearty victory songs, the tobacco industry's smokestacks puff and blow in brazen harmony. Honesty, it seems, went up in smoke decades ago, which proves some things really do stink worse than a smoker's breath.

WHAT'S THAT WEIRD
WITH THE PORSE SAYING, BOB?

HE SAYS IT'S NOT A PORSE
MR. FALWELL. IT'S WHERE HE
KEEPS HIS HANDGUN.



Falwell hilarious again

Jerry Falwell continues to crack me up.

Like the proverbial groundhog who sees his shadow, Falwell has popped up in the media again to put an end to any signs of positive social progression. You can expect six more weeks of stupidity and hilarity to follow his latest discovery.

In an article written for National Liberty Journal, Falwell poo-poo's Tinky Winky as an acceptable role model for children because the Teletubby character deliberately sprouts an upside-down triangle, a symbol of gay pride, atop his head. And, oh yeah, Tinky Winky also carries some kind of purse.

And to think Falwell has been depriving investigative agencies of his considerable detection skills for all these years. I didn't even know what the heck Tinky Winky was in the first place. Some sort of gay spokesman, apparently.

I guess that means the TV set my parents owned in the '70s was gay, too, because it had rabbit-ear antennae in the shape of an (gasp!) upside-down triangle.

I guess Falwell still can't wrap his hill-billy intellect around the idea that a gay person could ever possibly be a role model, much



Brent Clouthier

less a human being.

Just who's the pot calling the kettle black, anyway?

You want to talk about role models, Falwell? I guess it's okay for millions of viewers to follow the "religious" teachings of a heterosexual man of the cloth who has affairs with teenaged girls in by-the-hour motel rooms. But God forbid an apparently androgynous children's character should carry some sort of bag and sport a triangle.

Whatever. It seems to me someone was looking for a little publicity. Not everyone remembers you in the '80s, Jerry, when you had the idea that the devil wrote rock lyrics.

Don't worry, Jerry, I won't forget you. No one can make me laugh like you can. I loved you on WKRP in Cincinnati when you said John Lennon's song Imagine was about communism.

Now that's comedy. I laughed for weeks.

I'm not concerned over some alleged sexual orientation of a kid's show character or whether or not Tinky Winky would make a good role model. I'm more concerned about an alleged "man of God" discriminating against anyone not on his bandwagon rather than welcoming all of God's creatures with open arms.

But what else would you expect from a fat old man who watches preschooler shows all day long looking for overt signs of sexual references?

Jeans: the only defence you need?

Women, quit throwing your money away on useless self-defence courses. Instead, invest your hard-earned cash in a pair of slim-fitting Levi's.

In order for your self-defence to work, you must buy a pair so tight you must lie down on your bed and suck in your stomach to zip them up.

According to a recent ruling in an Italian court of appeals, women wearing tight jeans cannot be raped. So feel free to wear your liquid denims 24 hours a day. The court's decision is based on the fact that the assailant cannot possibly remove the



Sarah Thomson

painted-on jeans without the help of the victim, which would require her consent.

So, if you are wearing tight jeans and being raped at gun-point or being forcibly threatened to help the assailant does this not count? Does it still not count as rape if the victim helped to remove the jeans under the threat of force?

And, how can the tightness of a pair of jeans be measured in a court of law?

The hypothetical trial of a person accused of rape would have to involve the victim coming into the courtroom wearing the jeans she was wearing at the time of the rape and the defendant's lawyer would have to evaluate whether the jeans are too tight to allow rape. How would this be done?

One method would be to have the lawyer try to take off the pants without the victim's help. If unsuccessful then the defendant would win. Another possibility would be a guidebook, which would measure all current brands of jeans and their scale of tightness based on the proportion of height, weight and brand of jeans to determine if the jeans are too tight to rape a woman.

It seems like a pipe dream that the one solution to preventing rape would be as near as our dressers and closets. Worn snugly enough, in any situation, 24 hours a day, women could prevent the crime of rape forever with their denim chastity belts.

The reality is the law wouldn't be able to protect a woman any better than her slim-fitting jeans would.

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by the Doon Student Association (DSA). The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the DSA. Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect or MS Word file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

Last game at the Gardens

Students say it is the loss of a landmark



Rob Venditty, first-year general arts and business student.



The Leafs said goodbye to the Gardens on Feb. 13. They can only hope to have as much success in their new Air Canada Centre.

(Photo by Charles Kuepfer)

By Lindsay Gibson

Saturday, Feb. 13 marked the end of an era for Toronto Maple Leaf fans and hockey fans everywhere. The doors to Maple Leaf Gardens closed for the National Hockey League as the team and its fans prepared to move to the Air Canada Centre.

The Maple Leafs faced the Chicago Blackhawks in the last game, losing 6-2. The Leafs also played the Hawks in the first game at the Gardens in 1931.

Students at Conestoga College were asked how they felt about the Gardens closing in a random survey conducted at the college Feb. 11. The majority said they were upset because Canadians were losing a landmark and part of our history.

Kim Kilimnik, a second-year law-and-security student, said it would have been great to attend a game at the Gardens because of all the history there.

"It is kind of sad because it's been a landmark to sports fans," she said.

Michael Dale, a political science teacher at the college, said closing the Gardens takes the tradition out of hockey.

"It's all about glitz and glamour now," he said "The tradition is lost."

Chris Gowing, a third-year construction-engineering student, said he felt a little hurt and disappointed.

"It's a loss of tradition," he said, "and it's kinda sad."

Second-year general-business student Amy Stevens said it was sad to see the era end.

"It's sad but it's exciting to see the beginning of a new era."

Jacqueline Klobuchar, also a second-year general-business student, said she didn't really have an opinion, but if it was bringing in money then it will be a downfall.

Third-year civil-engineering students Jeff Schmidt and Chris Sperle said they were upset to see the Gardens close.

"I am upset because it is a historic building but we must move on," said Schmidt.

Sperle said, "It's a damn shame."

Rob Venditty, who admitted being a big fan of the Maple Leafs, said he's sad to see the

Leafs leave.

"I am sad to see a lot of history leave the Gardens," said Venditty a first-year general-arts-and-science student.

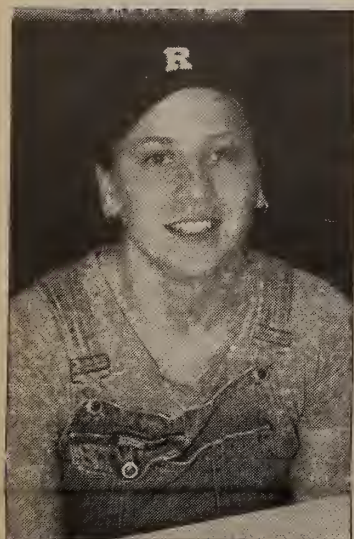
Kate Drexler, a second-year micro-computer administration student said everything must come to an end.

"It's just too bad because if they win the (Stanley) Cup this year it won't be in the Gardens," she said.

Carrie Barnes, on the other hand, is positive about the move, but says she hopes the old building gets used.

"It's neat to see Toronto putting up a new facility attracting new fans," said the first-year nursing student.

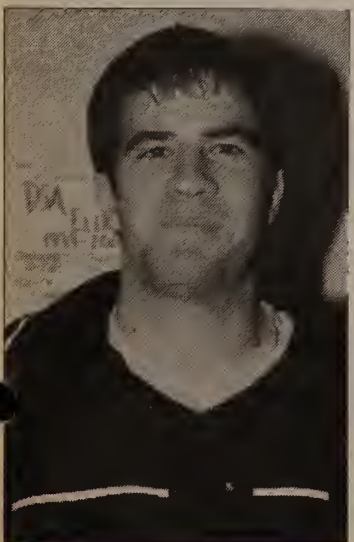
Photos by Lindsay Gibson



Carrie Barnes, first-year nursing student.



Jeff Schmidt, third-year civil engineering student.



Chris Sperle, third-year civil engineering student.



Kim Kilimnik, second-year LASA student.

Letter to the Editor

No laughing matter

Mr. (Carl) Strong was invited here presumably by the DSA to entertain today in the student lounge and I decided to take in his performance.

Expecting to be entertained, I was shocked and appalled by his apparent disregard for some moral and legal responsibilities which we as educators try to foster in our students, however indirectly.

Topics used for humorous purposes included drinking and driving, taking drugs and incest. I would have no problem with these topics if handled in the delicate way necessary in order to be socially responsible. However in stark contrast, Mr. Strong glorified these behaviours without any disclaimer, implied or otherwise, that these behaviours are unacceptable and illegal. The messages that I received from the performance were that it is okay to have sex with your daughter or drive if you are drunk and taking drugs is cool.

I think that it is incumbent upon whoever invites an entertainer such as Mr. Strong to our institution to establish that her or his attitudes are consistent with the responsibilities we are trying to instil in our students.

Taylor Zomer,
faculty, electronics
engineering technology

Silent Auction for the Heart & Stroke Foundation

Wed. Feb. 24

10:30 am - 1:30 pm

The Sanctuary

Items to be auction will be on display Monday, February 22, 1999
All proceeds will be directed to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Computers

Bar Fridge

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roots hat



Writing centre and homework club available

Special needs offers new services

By Julie van Donkersgoed

The college's special needs services and student services have developed a writing centre and a homework club, with funding from the Learning Opportunities Project grant.

The Learning Opportunities Project is a \$2.7 million, four-year project, which is to determine the kind of services colleges can provide for students with specific learning disabilities to be successful.

The writing centre, which is located in Room 2B22, does not require a referral and

is accessible to any student of the college who feels he/she needs assistance with issues relating to writing.

Students accessing the services of the drop-in writing centre will be provided with information relating to the area of writing in which they are experiencing difficulty.

The writing centre does not have computer equipment, but will provide a liaison via a referral to the literacy lab should specific computer software be required for a student using the services.

The centre will be staffed by a peer tutor, but the level of staffing will increase if the number of students using the centre justifies more assistance, said Lynn Gresham of special needs services.

Gresham also said that while the centre is to help students by giving them information about proper writing techniques, it is not to be used for editing purposes.

The writing centre, located in Room 2B22, does not require a referral and is accessible to any student of the college.

"We don't write for a student. We help with the details, but this is not an editing service," she said. "It has to be the student's work."

The writing centre is open Mondays from 9 a.m. till 4:30 p.m., Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursdays 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The homework club, a second new service, is available to special needs students.

This service will be extended to the general student population if a need is shown, said Gresham.

The homework club was designed to encourage students to gather informally to express concerns and gain knowledge about topics such as proper note taking, study habits, resource use and other skills in which students are interested.

While Gresham will be the primary staff member responsible for facilitating the club, she said she hopes students will take a role in educating their peers.

She added the club was designed to allow students to share their ideas and suggestions with other students.

For further information on either of the services, contact Lynn Gresham at (519) 748-5220 extension 627.

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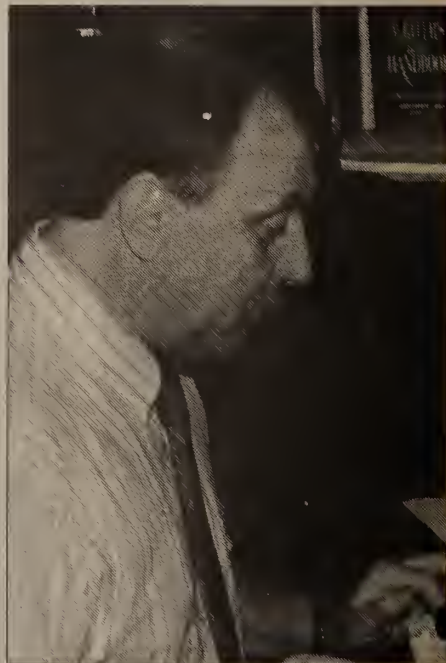
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Charlie Matjanec, employment advisor for the Learning Opportunities Project, examines resources that are part of the new writing centre located in Room 2B22 that opened Feb. 4.

(Photo by Julie van Donkersgoed)

Cafeteria's new services add variety

By Carly Benjamin

Conestoga students have had a healthy appetite for the new food services offered at the college.

The Market Grill and Mr. Sub located in the main cafeteria are additions to the choices available to students at the college and they are both showing profits.

The Deli Bar which was relocated to Dooners lost business but that was expected. The overall effect has been a plus for the college, according to Tony Chappell, food-service director at Conestoga.

According to Chappell, the Market Grill has been prosperous. "Things are going well and we are looking at introducing some new products, like hot wraps."

If the grill continues to flourish a second stove will be added. There is currently only one stove because they are expensive and food services wanted to ensure the grill would be a success before

they spent the money on another grill.

"I put the second stove into the next business year's budget, since things have been going so well," he said.

Chappell said it is essential to have variety and the Market Grill tries to achieve this. He said some items aren't as popular as others, but he can't offer the same thing every day.

"Anything with chicken seems to be the favourite," he said.

The Market Grill's home office designs the grill's food menu programs. They make the recipes and test them and then these ideas are presented to Chappell and his team decides on a rotation schedule.

"If it goes, then it goes, and if it doesn't we just stop doing it," he said.

The grill is open from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. daily.

Mr. Sub was a welcome addition and has also proved successful.

"It's a brand name product people recognize and are happy with," Chappell said.

He added the prices offered by Mr. Sub are no different than the prices at any other Mr. Sub franchise.

Deborah O'Donnell, a Trent University biology graduate, is the supervisor at Aurora Food Services which runs Mr. Sub in various colleges and one hospital in Ontario.

According to O'Donnell, they are independently owned and operated. The Conestoga contract is shared between Beaver Foods and Aurora Food Services.

Mr. Sub at Conestoga employs three full-time employees, including a manager.

O'Donnell said students are often concerned about sanitation because a sink isn't visible, but are reassured after learning there is a sink with a hot and cold reservoir tank under the counter.

"Employees continually clean



Sandra McDougall cooks up a stir-fry at the Market Grill.

(Photo by Carly Benjamin)

their hands and gloves are mandatory," she said.

An assorted eight-inch sub and pop combo will be on special for

\$3.99, beginning next Tuesday, Feb. 16. The special will be offered every Tuesday following for the rest of the school year.

Students secure smooth running of Nokia Cup



Chris Scott and Theresa Godfrey stand beside the panel display, showcasing Conestoga College, which they took with them to the Nokia Cup.

(Photo by Neven Mujezinovic)

By Neven Mujezinovic

Approximately 40 law and security administration (LASA) students helped provide security at the Ontario men's curling championships in Brantford, Feb. 12-14.

"Everybody was so pleased with the job we did," says second-year LASA student Theresa Godfrey. "We received nothing but praise."

The organizers were so satisfied with the job Conestoga students did they want them to do security at the next Nokia Cup in Woodstock two years from now, says Godfrey.

Al Hunter, head of security at Conestoga College, was approached by the organizers of the Nokia Cup several months before the event about whether LASA program students would be interested in participating in this event.

Hunter says the event sounded like a good opportunity for everyone, so he approached Don Douglas, co-ordinator of the LASA program.

"It's really a great opportunity and a worthwhile field experience for the students. It's great for the cup, because they are getting some quality people with some training and I think it's good exposure for the college because it's being fairly widely covered by the media," said Hunter in an interview prior to the event.

Hunter also stressed the people who are involved in curling are leaders in their business communities and it would be beneficial to students to be associated with an occasion such as the Nokia Cup.

Hunter says the response from students was extremely positive.

Hunter and student team leaders went to Brantford for an orientation session on Feb. 6 in order to acquaint themselves with the facility and to speak to other security staff working there. The six team leaders were in charge of organization and scheduling.

Godfrey, one of the team leaders, also put together a display board showcasing Conestoga College and the LASA program. The display was put in a prominent spot at the entrance to the arena.

Godfrey says the experience was a very positive one. "Actually we were honoured to be asked to do a high-profile job like this."

The students who volunteered their time for the event will receive credit for their work in their Crime Loss Prevention Strategies course, which stipulates they must do a security assignment during the semester.

"This ties into the program very closely," said Hunter.

Hunter says he was impressed by the students' initiative and energy level. In fact, students have been responsible for almost all the development process on this particular project, he said.

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Skills Canada gets new look

Students design winning concepts



Heather Miehm won the 10th Anniversary Pin Contest with her hand-drawn pin design.

(Photo by Jeanette Everall)

By Jeanette Everall

Posters and pins for this year's Skills Canada competition have turned into a portfolio piece for graphic arts and advertising students Jug Vagha and Heather Miehm whose designs were chosen in recent competitions.

Vagha, a third-year student who designed the poster and Miehm, a first-year student who designed the pin, presented their work at the board of governors meeting on Jan. 26.

Every year, Skills Canada presents skills competitions, where young people demonstrate their skills in technologies and trades across Canada at the regional, provincial, national and international levels.

Conestoga College will be hosting the Run-Off Competition in June to determine who will go onto the World Skills Competition to be held in Montreal in November.

Vagha said he didn't realize the calibre of the National Poster Contest, which was open to all high school and college students in Canada.

"I didn't know it was going to be printed all across Canada," he said.

Vagha was awarded \$250, a jacket and a plaque, which will be formally presented at an awards banquet on June 6.

Miehm's pin design, drawn completely by hand, was chosen as the winning design in the 10th Anniversary Pin Contest and she was awarded \$50.

Because both items will be distributed across Canada to promote the fifth annual Canadian Skills Competition, the students enjoy national recognition, said Vagha.

"At the stage that I'm at, as far as graphic design, it's getting my name out there," says Vagha. "People hear your name and remember it — it gives you a little edge."

Miehm, whose dream it is to work in Toronto, said she only had to make minimal changes to her design.

On the other hand, Vagha said there will have to be some technical changes to his design because Day Advertising, the company which judged the events, has higher quality equipment than the college.

Vagha said he doesn't mind making the changes as long as they don't change his concept.

But, he says, "I think they can (change the concept) because that's why they picked it."



Jug Vagha won the National Poster Contest with his computer-generated poster design.

(Photo by Jeanette Everall)

It's story time at Chapter's

Former journalism student lives out dream

By Janet Wakutz

In Lynn Henderson's Grade 1 scrapbook, in the blank next to the statement "When I grow up I want to be:" is written, author/illustrator.

Henderson, a former Conestoga graphic design and journalism student, wrote and illustrated her first children's book. The Dreaded Day was published in November last year.

It features Roger the Webberbump, a character she created who lives underwater in a coral cave and rides a seahorse.

The book delivers two lessons to children in an entertaining way. The lessons revolve around keeping your room clean and not

eating unidentified berries.

Henderson said The Dreaded Day is doing well.

"I've sold about 300 in two months," she said. Henderson has sold most of the 300 books during readings at elementary schools in her hometown area near Listowel. She has also done readings at the Chapter's stores in Kitchener and Waterloo where her books can be purchased for \$14. She sells the books directly for \$10 and can be contacted at 519-291-4508.

Henderson, who works part time at the Listowel Banner, a weekly newspaper, is currently in the process of sending the second book in her series to publishers. Henderson hopes to publish a continuing



Lynn Henderson shares a reading of her first published book with children gathered for storytime at Chapter's Book Store in Waterloo on Saturday, Feb. 13.

(Photo by Janet Wakutz)

Be my Valentine!



Mike Wolf purchases a rose and chocolate from Monica Himmelman, of alumni services, for \$2 on Feb. 12. The money raised from the event, held for the past five years, goes towards the alumni association who then gives it to the college.

Photo by Melissa Dietrich

series of children's books featuring Roger the Webberbump, named for his webbed feet and bumpy face.

She is also illustrating a children's Christmas book written by Gwyneth Whilsmith of RR 2, Zurich, who is publishing her fourth novel.

Henderson, who published 1,000 copies of the book with her own money, said she faced challenges in publishing her book.

"My illustrations were on water colour paper which didn't reproduce well but it was overcome by experimentation," she said.

Henderson says she lives by the motto: "Live your dreams while you still can."

"People have encouraged me and reacted positively to my choice to move ahead with my goals," she said.

She is currently researching a short novel about her experience with anorexia. The novel will be aimed at adolescents.

"I want to get my story out so other people can relate to it and hopefully it will help someone."

Lynn Henderson

"It will be primarily based on my life," she said. "I want to get my story out so other people can relate to it and hopefully it will help someone."

Henderson suffered with anorexia from age 14 until age 16.

Henderson, who has fully recovered, said mental health services in Listowel gives her name and phone number to people who are anorexic and need someone to talk to.

"I am just a friend to inspire and encourage recovery," she said.

College in need of space New technology building scheduled for mid-April opening

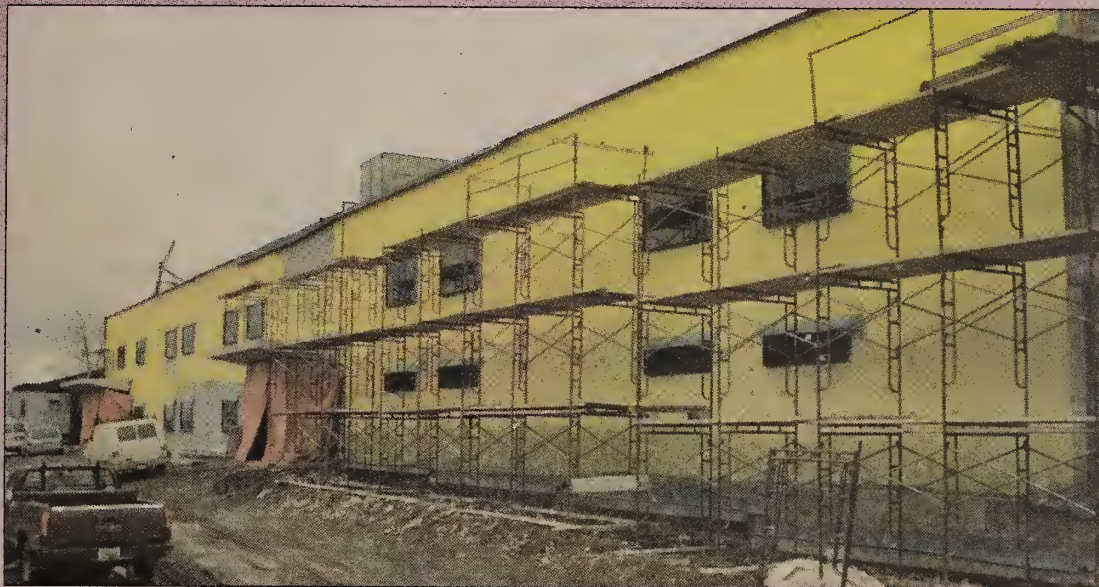
By Lisa Wilhelm

The new two-storey infill addition to the technology wing, being built opposite the machining wing on the south side of Conestoga College's Doon campus main building, is on schedule and should be finished during the second or third week of April.

"The reason we built this building is because we've run out of space," said David Putt, director of physical resources.

Construction of the additional 42,000 square feet began in August last year. An extension of 3,500 square feet was added onto the machine tool centre operator workshop on the ground floor. The second floor extension also consisted of 3,500 square feet and may be used for classrooms.

The remaining 36,000 square feet is a two-storey addition, adjacent to the existing technology wing. It has not yet been decided how that space will be used.



The new addition to the technology wing on the south side of the Doon campus main building should be complete the second week of April.
(Photo by Lisa Wilhelm)

"The reason we built this building is because we've run out of space."

David Putt, director of physical resources

Putt said two factors must be considered in determining how the space will be used. If the college increases enrolment by 1,000 students, the size of the bookstore and Dooners may have to be increased or space might be required for faculty offices.

The second thing Putt said needs to be looked at is the number of students admitted into the technology program each year.

"We should not add more than 300 students a year (if we use the figure of 1,000 students) because they have to go on to their second and third year. If we added 1,000 in one shot, then we'd be full right away," Putt said.

Putt said the number of additional students the college decides to admit this fall should be one-third of the capacity of the new building. The building capacity is 1,200 students.

Putt said installation of the interior walls is almost complete and ceilings and carpeting should be installed beginning in two weeks.

Spreading community warmth

Students and faculty working side-by-side

By Janet Wakutz

One day each semester, social services students and faculty come together to share information and perform community service.

To this end a panel presentation was held at the Waterloo Campus on Feb. 11. Several representatives from organizations involved with social services presented material and a question and answer period followed.

"I really enjoyed the panel discussion of people working in the community echoing what we're doing in school," said Paula Silva, second-semester student.

"We wouldn't be able to do what we do if we didn't have the people to volunteer."

Judy Zieske

Canadian Red Cross Society

The theme of this semester's program day was Our Youth in the New Millennium and speakers included representatives from Family and Children's Services, Waterloo Region District school board, Lutherwood, Madison Receiving Home and Hope Manor.

The second half of the day the students performed public service

for various social service organizations. They performed such tasks as filing, stuffing envelopes, typing and sorting supplies. In order to promote interaction between students, they were divided into groups of six, three from first year and three from second.

Madeline Poynter, a member of social services faculty, said most of the jobs were mundane.

"The purpose is to offer a service to the community not to learn new skills," she said.

In one placement, at the Red Cross, several students folded blankets in the small confines of a basement on King Street in Waterloo. Red Cross volunteers run the blanket program.

Judy Zieske, of the Kitchener-Waterloo branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society, said the blanket program is valuable because the donated blankets are given free to people such as single moms and street kids in the region.

Zieske, volunteer resources co-ordinator, said she appreciated the student help.

"We wouldn't be able to do what we do if we didn't have people to volunteer," she said.

Nicole Donachy, in her fourth semester, said it felt good to be helping people. She said last semester all social services students gathered at the Waterloo Region Food Bank and spent their afternoon packaging food items.

"Blankets keep you warm on the outside and the inside and it encourages me to keep others warm as well," said second-semester student Rebekah Wergeland.



Shelley Kittel, second-semester social services, and classmate Rebekah Wergeland fold and sort bedding as a community service project in the basement of the Red Cross building in Waterloo on Feb. 11.
(Photo by Janet Wakutz)



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Psychology teacher likes polygraph

By Wayne Collins

The college's introductory psychology teacher, Barb Augustine, knows a few tricks about lying, but she can't hide her professional dedication.

After 30 years at the college, she has developed a teaching style that includes videos, handouts, lectures and, most notably, an old polygraph machine. Augustine says it's one of her favourite ways to mix practical experience with the largely, theory-oriented psychology lessons.

She says she began borrowing the polygraph machine from the former biology lab 27 years ago to demonstrate the physiological components of emotion to students.

Wheeling the sizeable machine from a closet, she explains that "lie detector" is a misnomer because polygraphs don't detect lies. Instead, they measure changing heart rates, perspiration, muscle tension and body temperatures.

"It measures a subject's physiological changes to emotional responses and displays the results on a graph," she says.

In class a student is given a number to think about and must lie about it. Everyone in the class



Psychology teacher Barb Augustine says the polygraph machine, which is her favourite instrument, is one way of giving students a hands-on approach to psychology. (Photo by Wayne Collins)

knows the number except Augustine who questions the student, who then lies about the number. Augustine tries to pinpoint the lie on the polygraph's printout. Polygraph test results are inadmissible as court evidence, she says, because practised liars can fool polygraphs and they intimidate innocent people.

She calls one method the "pucker factor", a clenching of the anus muscles to increase blood pressure and produce inaccurate responses. Old psychological theories, says Augustine, didn't distinguish between emotions like fear and anger.

"Sociopaths might not be anxious," she says, "but an inno-

cent person may be frightened about just being questioned, or just angry."

Students, she says, are always fascinated with the machine and it helps them connect psychology's theories to physiological realities. Students can see the relationship between mind and body in the printouts, says Augustine, who has

an MA from the University of Windsor and an honors BA from McMaster. Augustine says she's now demonstrated the polygraph to hundreds of students.

"I'm now teaching the children of some of my early students," she says, "and maybe even the next generation."

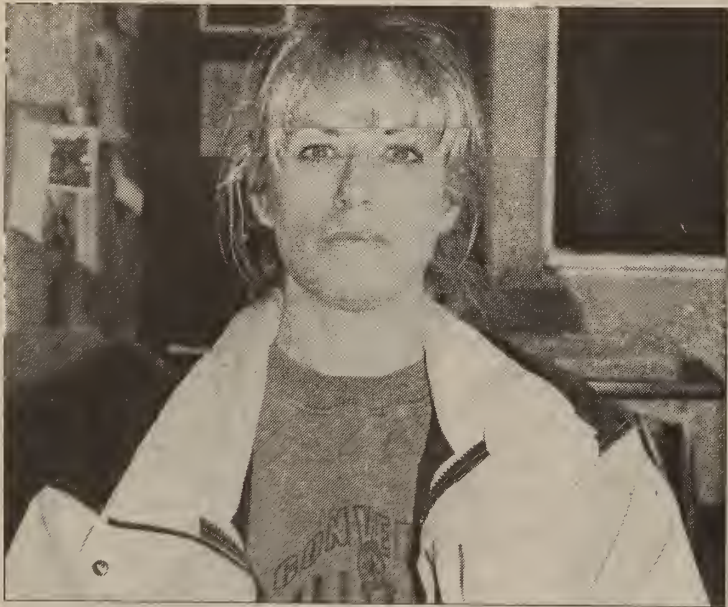
Of course, she doesn't want to give the impression that her methods are all "truth or dare." She is also passionate about teaching stress management, self-help relaxation methods, biofeedback, meditation and dream analysis. Some students like her methods but not all of them.

"Once a social services student wanted to do a self-relaxation exercise five minutes before an exam," says Augustine, "but some students think (it's) for the birds, or boring."

The passage of time, however, has not dulled her dedication to teaching psychology. The "GSR part" is broken on the machine and Augustine grins as she puts in a plug, saying she wishes the college would acquire a newer modern version.

"They are compatible with Windows '98," she says, "and I'm sure LASA might even be interested in using one of those."

Special needs service helpful, student says



Rena Feswick, a special needs student, said being dyslexic doesn't prevent her from pursuing a career as a registered practical nurse. (Photo by Jacqueline Smith)

By Jacqueline Smith

"College life is good. It gives me a sense that I am doing something for myself," says Rena Feswick.

Feswick who is dyslexic has abnormal difficulty in reading and spelling. She talked about her experience as a registered practical nursing student at Conestoga College after completing her first week in the program.

"So far, I have not come across any problems," Feswick said.

The 43-year-old said she finds Conestoga's special needs services to be very helpful, and that she uses most of the services.

"Whether it is extra time on tests, or any other accommodations, I would highly recommend the special needs department," she said.

According to Rick Casey, special needs transition counsellor, the special needs office offers several services including extra time for test-taking to students with a specific learning disability.

"Beyond the testing itself, we hire one-to-one proctors who read test questions to students who have difficulty reading print material," Casey said.

The counsellor said the office supports students with disabilities by providing note-taker services,

readers, tutors, peer mentors, test proctors and print-based materials in alternate print form.

Because of her disability, Feswick took three electives at Conestoga prior to enrolling in the nursing program.

"The reason I did that was to lighten my workload so I wouldn't have so much work in the first semester," Feswick said.

She said she is happy she took the electives last semester because she finds her workload hectic this semester.

"If I had those extra courses added on, I would be too overwhelmed or it would be too much for a special needs student," she said.

Feswick said her disability does not affect her day-to-day tasks, but it can get difficult in the classroom.

She said because of her difficulty with spelling, it would be a waste of time for her to take notes in class.

"If a teacher is speaking and I am taking notes, I'll come across a word that is hard to pronounce. By the time I figure it out, the teacher would be another five minutes ahead of me," Feswick said.

She said anyone with her kind of learning disability will agree that getting words on paper is the biggest problem.

"Otherwise we are pretty bright students," she said.

She said math related subjects are no problem, but she is hoping to use a tape recorder for lectures.

"I have to get forms signed by

my teachers giving me permission to use a tape recorder in their class," she said.

Feswick said while there are many job opportunities after she finishes her two-year program at Conestoga, she hopes to get a job in a hospital. She said since the baby boomers are getting older, there is a demand for nurses.

"I think practical nursing is stable, and that's why I decided to take a career in nursing."

Feswick said with special needs backing her, she will both learn a lot and enjoy her two years at the college.

"I don't believe it will be easy, but I think it will be an interesting and fairly smooth ride," she said.

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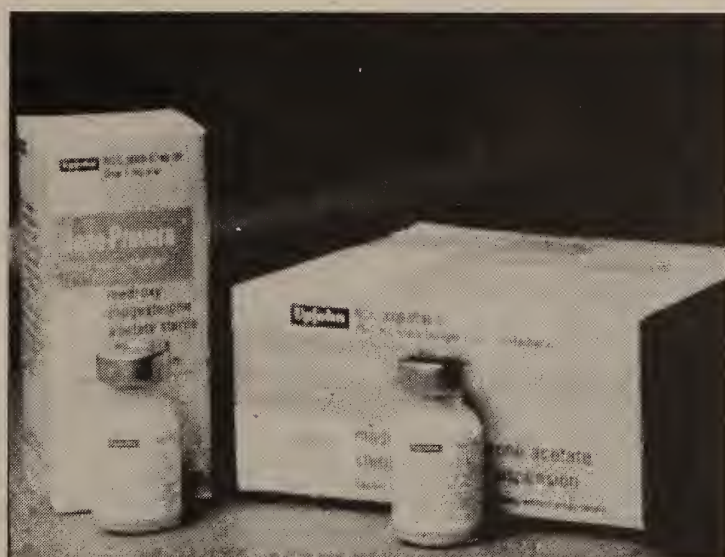
By Judy Sankar

A method of birth control recently approved in Canada may be just what women are looking for. It relieves the hassle of remembering to take a pill every day, and one injection lasts three months as opposed to the Norplant five-year injection.

Approved in Canada in 1997, "the shot" contains a medicine called Depo Provera which is similar to progesterone, the hormone that women produce during the final two weeks of their monthly cycle.

Depo Provera is not only extremely effective, but it is effective immediately after it is taken (although many physicians suggest other methods of birth control for the first week to be cautious).

During one year, the likelihood of a woman on Depo Provera becoming pregnant is three in



Depo Provera, often called "the shot", is injected every three months, relieving the hassle of taking a pill every day.

(Internet Photo)

1,000.

The most common side effect of the injection is viewed by many as a benefit. During menstruation,

there is less blood loss and menstrual cramping.

Some women stop menstruating completely after three injections,

which reduces the risk of anemia.

Breastfeeding while on Depo Provera is safe as long as the infant is at least six weeks old, and using this form of birth control may improve premenstrual syndrome (PMS) and depression.

Despite its effectiveness, Depo Provera is not as popular a method of birth control as the pill, however.

"Some people have a fear of injections and you have to make sure to get the injections on time," says Mary Hall, a public health nurse with the Waterloo Regional Sexual Health Program.

The levels of Depo Provera are highest in a woman's body when she first receives the injection.

As the 12 weeks pass, the levels drop off and after that time, there isn't enough to maintain birth control effectively.

Depo Provera can lead to irregular periods and spotting may occur at any time, whereas the pill regulates periods.

The cost of using Depo Provera is roughly the same as the pill and both are available through Conestoga's health services.

"Another thing with Depo Provera is that it's not like you can just stop taking it," says Hall, unlike the pill which is the most commonly used method of birth control.

The biggest downfall of Depo Provera, however, could further explain why it is not as popular as the pill.

"It takes a long time to regain fertility," says Hall.

After stopping the injections, getting pregnant takes months and in some cases years.

The average pregnancy rate after stopping Depo Provera is 10 months, but the range is four months to 31 months.

Student services organizes relaxation group

By Lindsay Gibson

Are you feeling a little stressed out? Do you want to learn to relax? Student Services counselors Karen Rittinger and Judy Bates have organized a relaxation techniques group at Conestoga College to help students who are feeling stressed out. The group is open to all students and will begin meeting the week of March 15.

It will consist of three sessions to be held at the same time each week. Students who participate in the group will take part in sessions using alternative methods of relaxation.

"We'll be using some skills to help students cope with exam stress," said Rittinger.

Rittinger and Bates will conduct the classes using deep breathing and visualization techniques as well as yoga stretch exercises.

Rittinger and Bates say they do not consider themselves experts in relaxation and are open to students' ideas.

"We're learning too," said Bates. "We'll all share ideas of what works for us."

To register, students are asked to submit a copy of their timetable to either Elaine or Jeanette in student services in Room 2B02 by March 1.

Rittinger and Bates will then set meeting times in accordance with students' timetables.

A lesson in history

WLU professor to lecture at college

By Lisa Wilhelm

On Feb. 24, Wilfrid Laurier University professor Terry Copp will come to Conestoga College's Doon campus to speak on a topic entitled Woensdrecht: An interactive tactical exercise examining a Canadian operation in Holland, October 1944.

Geoff Hayes, a WLU history professor, said that Copp, who is a director of institution at Laurier and a member of the Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies, is probably one of the best military

historians in Canada.

He is the editor of the Canadian Military History journal and an author of numerous books about Canadians and the Second World War.

He was also the consulting historian on a film series entitled No Price too High.

Hayes said that the lecture is to inform people about military history and to extend it to other campuses.

Copp, who Hayes said is well regarded in military history, received his Master of Arts at McGill University in Montreal.

The lecture, which will take place in the college's Student-Client Services Building in rooms 214 and 215 from 7-9 p.m., is being co-sponsored by the Highland Fusiliers, the Laurier Centre for Military

Strategic and Disarmament Studies, Laurier, the Department of History and the University of Waterloo. The admission for this event is free and free visitor parking is available in Lot 8 off Doon Valley Drive.

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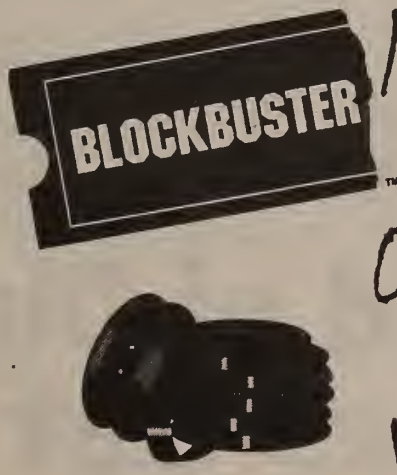
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Movie of the week

Tues. Feb. 23
12:30 pm
In The Sanctuary



From the cheap seats

Leafs bid farewell to Maple Leaf Gardens

Out with the old and in with the new.

Following a growing trend in the world of professional sports, the Toronto Maple Leafs have said goodbye to their old home and hello to a brand, spanking new hockey house.

They leave behind a building loaded with history and enough lingering memories to last any hockey fan a lifetime.

During their stay in the Gardens, the Leafs won the Stanley Cup eight times on home ice, a feat they can only hope to repeat in their new home, made more difficult in the NHL's post-expansion era.

The Gardens is the last of the arenas to be discarded by the league's original six teams, Boston, Detroit, New York, Chicago and Montreal have all made the switch to new facilities, but one can only wonder how long it will be before they become outdated.

The Gardens opened for business in 1931 with Toronto losing its first game to the Chicago Blackhawks. And just as history began, it also closed the same way, with Chicago once again spoiling the party by defeating Toronto in the Leafs' final game at the old barn.

The Leafs are moving into the Air Canada Centre, a \$265 million monstrosity they will



Charles Kuepfer

share with Toronto's basketball team, the Raptors. Compared to the old Gardens, it features padded seats, more washroom facilities and more private boxes.

The fans may find the Air Canada Centre more comfortable but will they be any happier? It will be a tricky thing trying to recreate an atmosphere similar to the one they had created at the Gardens. Just ask the Chicago Blackhawks.

The Hawks are still adjusting to life in the United Centre, a big-cavernous building, which has failed to provide the intense atmosphere that the old Chicago Stadium produced.

Opponents are no longer intimidated to play hockey in Chicago, especially since they can now hear themselves think. Crowd noise was a real problem for visiting teams who made the trek to Chicago when the Blackhawks played in the old stadium.

As for the Leafs, time will tell how quickly they can adjust to their new home.

The move interrupts a season in which they find themselves among the league's top teams. It may be a move that spells disaster for a club rudely jolted from its familiar surroundings.

Whatever may become of the Leafs and their new digs, there will never be another Gardens.

There will only be fond memories of a place where childhood dreams were fulfilled and legends were born.

What a rush

Paintball shoots adrenaline

By Rob Himburg

Nestled behind a stack of tires, you cautiously peer out across the scene. Bushes, buildings and the occasional moving shadow are visible, but all is silent. You think it's safe to move forward, but as you step into the clear, you hear the cracking sound of a carbon dioxide canister dispensing as a stream of paintballs head your way. They splatter on your chest, legs and arms, forcing you out of the game. But you'll be back. Unlike real warfare where bullets are used, you can always come back.

The ever-growing sport of paintball is coming into prominence in the social event scene in the Kitchener-Waterloo region. It's a game for everyone, from children to adults, who wishes to go out and experience a scenario somewhat similar to a war.

The Paintball Arena, an indoor paintball facility located on the third floor of an old factory at 124 Charles St. in Kitchener, offers the public a year-round site for entertainment.

Arena manager Tashelle Nielsen said the arena is particularly busy during the winter months.

"Most players go to the outdoor fields in the summer," she said.

But that hasn't deterred the business which is now in its fifth year of operation. Many people, however, may not know the arena even exists due to its location. They are more likely to visit the much more visible Laser Quest, a block down from the old factory where the arena is located.

Nielsen explained it's really hard to find 21,000 square feet.

"We have to take whatever we can get that offers that much space," she said.

The arena, however, does not see Laser Quest as a competitor, just a different clientele and preference.

Laser Quest is going more for kids; adults are going for fun, Nielsen said.

"With paintball, it's now evolved to a sport, it's no longer a fun game," she said. "They're coming knowing that they're going to get

more of the army type scenario."

Nielsen also said her customers are a little more serious.

"They want to play, they want to get the adrenaline going, they want the atmosphere," she said.

As with any sport, there are injuries that can be suffered playing this game, as these mini-projectiles travel at speeds of 230-250 feet per second.

"Some people will bruise, some people will walk away with nothing, some people will welt and some people will even bleed from the shell when it hits," said Nielsen. "It depends on their tolerance or skin type."

players come in open-minded, they know what to expect so that avoids any physical confrontations in the arena."

Brothers Mike and Scott Groves, both members at the arena, enjoy the game for various reasons.

"I like the adrenaline rush," said Mike. "It's a lot more real than Laser Quest, but you can also do more. It's not as restricted. You're allowed to run, duck and dive if you want to."

Scott, who takes the game a little more seriously than Mike, as is evident by the almost \$1,000 he's spent on various items of equipment since he joined, said



Scott Groves, a law and security graduate, makes sure his weapon is in working order before he ventures into battle.

(Photo by Rob Himburg)

She also explained that the game is a good stress reliever.

"We have more suit-and-tie guys as the year goes on," she said. "If they want to get out and blow off some steam at lunch, we find it's really popular for people that come here."

The game itself, due to its nature, may increase the level of aggression released in a player.

"You're scared, your adrenaline is going, you don't want to get it, bottom line," she said. "A lot of

the game is more fun and exciting.

"It's hard core," said the Conestoga College law and security graduate. "It's fast-paced. You need to use more of your senses such as hearing, sight and feel. You're always in the action, no place is safe."

Now that you've been hit, you walk off the field, waiting for the victorious team to stake its claim at superiority, then, once again, as the referee's whistle blows it begins and the game commences.

Games Week

March 15 - 18

Nintendo
Air Hockey
Tournament
Foosball
Tournament
Pool
Tournament

Sign up at
the DSA Office



Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, February 24
4:30 p.m. The Other Room

Agenda Items will include: dental plan, budget approval, election results.



Condors tie Alumni, lose player

By Brian Smiley

As the women's indoor soccer season winds down, Conestoga may have to settle for second spot in the playoff round after playing to a 2-2 draw against the Alumni on Feb. 9 at the recreation centre.

While the Alumni retained their first place standing and undefeated record, they showed there may be a crack in their armour.

The Alumni and Condors played evenly throughout the game, but the Condors did so while playing short-handed.

"A 2-2 tie is more than we could ask for, considering how many players we had," said Sanjeeve Dhanapala, the Condors' assistant coach.

Since there are only a couple of games left in regular season play, it looks as though Conestoga will have to wait until the playoffs begin to see if they can smash that armour completely, but that doesn't bother Dhanapala.

"When all the chips are down, we'll take them (in the finals)," Dhanapala said.

Even though they were missing several key players and coming off a tournament the previous weekend, the Condors were still able to hold onto control of the

scoreboard through most of the match.

Conestoga opened the scoring at the 18-minute mark when Ang Papazotos took a breakaway pass from the keeper and had two opportunities to score.

After Papazotos's first attempt went off the keeper, she grabbed the rebound and scored into a vacated net.

Papazotos's goal was the only marker of the half and the Condors were lucky to be holding the lead, thanks to a flurry of great saves by goalie Stephanie DenHaan to end the period.

Beginning the second half, the Alumni kept their momentum going and evened the score at the eight-minute mark.

Andrea Heroux caught DenHaan out of position and scored easily into an empty net.

However, Papazotos and the Condors responded. On a nice cross from Karen Melanson, Papazotos scored at the 14-minute mark to put Conestoga up by a goal.

After that it seemed as though the Condors would upset the Alumni, but it wasn't meant to be.

With just under five minutes remaining, Marlene Ford was awarded a free kick close to the Condors' goal. After passing



Conestoga's Jenn Melynk and the Alumni's Andrea Heroux battle for control in a game on Feb. 9, at the recreation centre. (Photo by Brian Smiley)

to a teammate, Ford went to the front of the net, just outside the crease and blasted the give-and-go into the bottom corner of the net.

Ford concluded the scoring, but the drama continued.

With just under three minutes left in the game, the Condors leading goal scorer, Melanson, went after a ball in the corner. After an Alumni player chased her and came out with the ball, Melanson lay in a heap.

Melanson had stepped on the player's foot and rolled on her ankle.

The game was suspended for about 10 minutes while Melanson was attended to by the trainer. She was helped off the floor and play resumed.

Conestoga finished the game short-handed after one of their players was slapped with a penalty for arguing with the referee. The dispute centred on why no penalty was called on the Alumni player for injuring Melanson.

After the game, Dhanapala wasn't certain about the extent of the injury, but knew the repercussions could be devastating to the Condors' chances in the playoffs if Melanson was seriously injured.

"She's going to be sorely missed if she's out for a long period of time because she's our leading goal scorer," he said.

The Condors see action again on Feb. 23 at the recreation centre.

Party for the fans

Coach wants games to be more entertaining

By Rob Himburg

Conestoga College basketball coach Terry Upshaw would like to see more entertainment out of a basketball game than the game itself.

If things go his way and the Condors get a spot in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association men's basketball league next season, he has plans to make basketball games at the recreation centre an "event."

Before he can make that happen, Upshaw has to deal with the funding issue.

Upshaw said the approximate cost of running a varsity basket-

ball team is about \$10,000.

He is hoping to persuade the college to accept his bid for a team by raising money to offset the cost of the team.

"My goal is to get Ian James (manager of athletics and recreation) \$5,000 by the middle of March," he said, "just so he really has a hard time saying no when we're giving him half of the budget."

If and when the Condors get a varsity team, Upshaw wants to make the game something fans will remember.

"There's not much of a connection between the core campus and the athletic facility,"

he said. "I want to try and get more of a party atmosphere such as pre-game or tailgate parties."

The parties would be on a Tuesday night, not a normal pub night.

The games would also have special events for the crowd, such as halftime shows and give-aways.

"I want the fan to come in, have free T-shirts and hats and a halftime shoot-out," said Upshaw. "All of these things are really easy to put into place, it's just a lot of legwork."

So Condor basketball fans prepare, if the dream comes true, the party will be for you.

Melanson may miss provincial playoffs

By Brian Smiley

Conestoga forward Karen Melanson may miss the Ontario women's indoor soccer championships after suffering an injury to her leg on Feb. 9.

Melanson damaged the ligaments in her leg and may have chipped a bone in her ankle, coach Geoff Johnstone said.

The injury occurred in a league game against the Alumni with just under three minutes left to play.

Melanson went into the corner to try and corral a loose ball and injured the leg when she stepped on an opponent's foot.

Johnstone said Melanson is hoping she will be back in action

in time for the championships.

"She's hopeful she'll be back for Ontario," Johnstone said.

Melanson is currently the Condors' leading goal scorer, but Sanjeeve Dhanapala, the Condors' assistant coach, said he hoped the rest of the team would pick up the slack if she was out for an extended period of time.

"It's a chance for the rest of the team to step up, if she's gone," Dhanapala said.

Johnstone said if this injury had happened a year ago, with the squad's lack of offensive diversity at the time, the team would have been in a tough spot.

"If it was this time last year, it would be an absolute disaster," Johnstone said.

Upcoming Intramural Games

Ice Hockey Playoffs

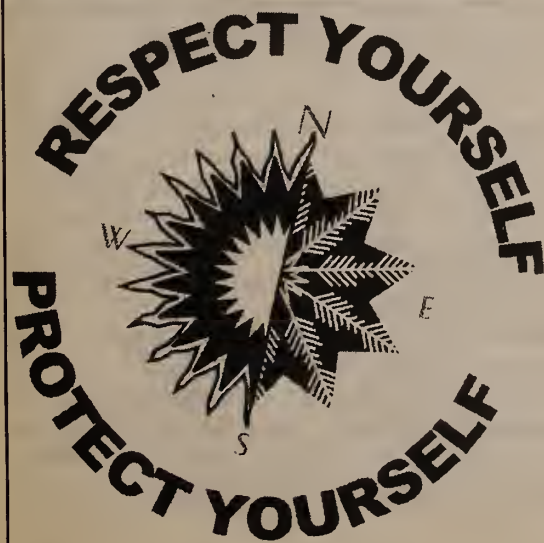
Tuesday, February 23

4:30 p.m. A vs. B

Wednesday, February 24

4:30 p.m. B vs. 1st.

Top two teams advance to finals in March.



Safe Break Awareness

Feb. 22 - 26

Responsibility...
during Spring Break



Warren takes music to war-torn countries

By Elizabeth Sackrider

For most singers playing a gig involves a small sweaty club, lots of beer and no chance of danger.

When Jamie Warren, country music vocalist and former Conestoga broadcasting student, decided to take his act across the ocean, he could have faced many threats in war-torn countries.

Warren was one of five performers who took their show on the road for the Canadian Armed Forces and the overseas troops before Christmas last year.

"The land mines were the scariest," said Warren. "You never left camp alone and you never left on anything unpaved."

Playing in places like Bosnia, Egypt, the former Yugoslavia, Israel and Italy was a change of perspective for Warren who had

never been overseas previous to his tour.

"In Israel all the soldiers walk around with their machine guns, even at clubs," he said. "It wasn't until later I found out if you lose your gun it is seven years in prison."

According to Warren, Egypt, where they played for 1,000 people, was a really bizarre place.

"In Egypt they don't drive around with their headlights on at night," he said.

Warren, who went on the trip with keyboardist Tim Louis, said he and the other performers were allowed to do things that the civilians will never see and never do.

"We went on patrol for six hours and even wore the helmets and rode in armoured vehicles," he said.

The singer decided to do the tour because he said it would be an amazing

experience to see that side of the world.

With Christmas right around the corner, emotions were riding high for the crowds of military personnel who wouldn't be seeing their families for the holidays.

"It wasn't until you sat in the audience that you knew how unbelievably strong the emotions were," said Warren. "They were somewhat starved for entertainment."

After each gig, Warren and the other performers were encouraged to have a few

beers with the soldiers.

"I think I played more after the show than during," he said.

When the tour was over, Warren admitted it was difficult to say goodbye.

"It was like leaving summer camp the whole time," said Warren.

Back home, Warren is working on sales of his current album *Just Not The Same*. Sales are a little sluggish but CMT has aired three of his videos.



Jamie Warren practices in his studio.

(Photo by Sarah Thomson)

Hot Condors cool Auks

Charles Kuepfer

It was a battle of two of the league's hottest teams as Conestoga rolled into Lindsay Feb. 11 to lock horns with the Sir Sanford Fleming Auks, a team they are battling for a coveted playoff spot.

The Condors won the game 2-1, stretching their winning streak to four games and vaulting them into third place in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association's hockey standings.

Condors' assistant coach Bob Hunke was impressed with his team's effort.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game coming in," said Hunke. "(Our) boys just wanted it more than they did."

With the win, the Condors have improved their post-season hopes but Hunke said they aren't a shoe-in.

"We've still got our work cut out for us," said Hunke. "It's become a log jam."

Yet Hunke is confident his team will finish in the top four.

"I know the boys can do it. There's no question in my mind," said Hunke. "I'd put money on it."

Hunke said the Condors expected a physical game and it was. Both teams spent the evening seizing every possible opportunity to flatten their opponent.

Early in the first period, both teams came out hitting but produced few scoring chances.

And when there were good chances both goalies made key saves to keep the game close.

Condors' goaltender Anthony Gignac kept the game scoreless midway through the first with a great glove save.

The Condors drew first blood after Sean Murray banked a shot out in front of the Auks' goaltender, circled the net and banged in his own rebound with just over five minutes left in the period.

The Auks tied the game at the 14:48 mark of the second period and the score remained 1-1 at the end of the period.

Mike Traynor put Conestoga ahead in the third period and the Auks failed to solve the puzzle of how to beat Gignac, even after Scott Taylor took an illegal stick penalty late in the period, which put Conestoga down two men.

The Condors effectively killed off both penalties and hung on to win the game.

Conestoga forward Corby Purdy, who grew up in Lindsay, was happy to get a win in his hometown.

"It's a really good feeling to come here and win," said Purdy.

He also praised Gignac who he said is probably the best goalie in the league.

The Condors final game is on the road against the Humber Hawks on Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. They have won five out of their last six games and are trying to nail down one of the four playoff spots available.



Darren Dillon, left, takes a shot at the Auks' net during their 2-1 victory. The Condors have now won four games in a row.

(Photo by Charlie)

Strong's comedy act creates controversy

By Brent Clouthier

Comedian Carl Strong brought his ribald brand of humour to Conestoga's Sanctuary Feb. 10, but not everyone was amused.

Taylor Zomer, a member of the electronic engineering technology program, voiced his concern over the Chicago-born comedian's show in a letter addressed to SPOKE's editor, college principal Grant McGregor and the Doon Student Association.

"I was shocked and appalled by his apparent disregard for some moral and legal responsibilities which we, as educators, try to foster in our students," Zomer wrote. "The messages I received from the performance was that it is okay to have sex with your daughter or drive if you are drunk, and that taking drugs is cool."

While Zomer didn't appreciate Strong's humour, the near-capacity crowd who gathered in the Sanctuary to watch Strong laughed and applauded throughout his performance.

The applause was enough to prompt Strong to return to the stage twice after his first set was finished.

Strong's performance featured strong language, racial slurs and comments about drug use. He also imitated James Brown, as well as Bill Cosby.

"Cosby, Carlin and Pryor were my biggest influences; Pryor was probably the biggest," said Strong, who admits he didn't know he was going to be a comedian.

The 21-year entertainment veteran, who holds a masters degree in psychology from Whitewater University in Wisconsin, has appeared on numerous HBO specials.

"I've worked with The Temptations, Smokey Robinson, Paul Anka and Chaka Khan. I usually do about 10 to 15 minutes on their act."

"This is a bit of a stretch when I do this," he said of his college shows.

Strong visited Conestoga as part of a DSA-sponsored nooner while between shows in Las Vegas, where he is currently opening for Gladys Knight.

● *She's All That:* predictable yet bearable teen-flick



Zack Siler (Freddie Prinze Jr.) with ex-girlfriend Taylor Vaughn (Jodi Lyn O'Keefe) argue over Taylor's new boyfriend Brock Hudson (Matthew Lillard) in *She's All That*. (Internet Photo)

By Eileen Diniz

She's All That, the latest teen release, is a new comedy by Miramax films starring some of Hollywood's new teen talents.

Freddie Prinze Jr. (*I Still Know What You Did Last Summer*, 1998) stars as Zack Siler and Rachel Leigh Cook (*Strike*, 1998) is Laney Boggs, in a movie written by R. Lee Fleming Jr. and directed by Robert Iscove.

The movie is nothing to rave about but it is bearable.

Zack (Prinze) is the most popular guy at a snobby, rich school in Los Angeles. He has the third highest grade point average in his class and is also the captain of the football team. He is dating Taylor Vaughn (Jodi Lyn O'Keefe), the prettiest but most shallow girl at school.

Taylor ends up breaking up with Zack after her trip to Daytona Beach where she meets Brock Hudson (Matthew Lillard). Brock is the star of MTV's *The Real World*, where kids are cast to act as themselves. He is so into himself that he has a tattoo of himself on his right arm.

Zack then makes a bet with his best friend Dean Sampson (Paul Walker) saying he can turn any girl into prom queen with a little work. His friend takes him on, and now Zack has five weeks to make over a girl and turn her into the most popular girl at school.

Laney (Cook) turns out to be the girl that Dean (Walker) picks for the bet. She is not your typical student. She is a clumsy art student who spends most of her time in her basement painting. She has a bad attitude, dirty hair, no friends and definitely the wrong clothes.

The key to Laney is that she doesn't care about appearances, only truth and art.

Laney can't seem to understand why suddenly she has the attention of Zack. She repeatedly pushes him off and resists his advances. Eventually they go on a date and Zack gets to know her better but he doesn't realize that he may be falling in love with her.

Laney's in for some embarrassing moments though with Taylor Vaughn who is sure she'll be prom queen.

The movie progresses from there with a somewhat predictable ending.

The film is a modern day spin on *My Fair Lady*, 1964, starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison. In this movie a professor bets he can transform a lower class girl into a high-class lady. *My Fair Lady* was based on George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, written in 1912.

Cook is not an exceptional actress but her character Laney is likeable, fun and charming. Prinze as Zack was magnificent as always.

The only real problem with the film was the script and the constraints put on it, which made it difficult for Laney and Zack to fully utilize their characters. Their conversations barely lasted longer than 60 seconds.

The movie is nothing to rave about but it is bearable. The film doesn't fade or get boring in the middle but it is made for a younger teen audience.

Once you realize this movie isn't about achieving perfection but about entertaining teenagers, you soon realize it wasn't a complete waste of time.

She's All That is now playing at Fairway Cinema in Kitchener, Cineplex Odeon in Guelph, Premier Cinemas in Stratford and Cambridge Cineplex. It is rated PG and has a running time of approximately 97 minutes.

1 2 3 4 5

'Bottle' best left on beach

By Ken Groulx

Based on the best-selling novel by Nicholas Sparks and starring two of America's finest acting talents, plus a screen legend, *Message in a Bottle* would appear to have all the necessary ingredients for a mature, intellectual love story. Unfortunately, in assembling a first-rate cast, the producers forgot to assemble a believable screenplay with emotional impact.

Bogged down by romantic genre clichés and an undeveloped narrative, *Message in a Bottle* meanders with such plodding predictability that even the fine performances of its cast can't save it from bubbling under into murky depths of melodramatic mediocrity.

The film unfolds as Theresa Osborne, played by the underrated Robin Wright Penn (*Forrest Gump*), discovers a bottle containing an apologetic, romantic message, signed only with the initial "G." A divorced woman with little passion in her life, she obsessively pours over the letter, touched by its honesty and lost-love heartache. Intrigued by the letter's poetic sentiment, she uses her Chicago Tribune research skills to track the letter's origin and author. Her incredulous search leads her to Garrett Blake (played by Kevin Costner), a North Carolina sailboat builder, lost in a solitary existence, apart from his bantering relationship with his cantankerous father, played by Paul Newman.

The relationship between

Theresa and Garrett begins innocuously enough, with midnight sailing and steak dinners, but becomes increasingly difficult as the grieving Blake is unable to allow himself to betray the

memory of his deceased wife. Hence, the dilemma.

Director Luis Mandoki has explored similar themes in *When a Man Loves A Woman*, which featured a housewife battling alcoholism, but the romantic turmoil of *Message In a Bottle* is undermined by formulaic clichés to complicate the relationship. She's a big-city girl; he's a townie. She has a son; he's never been a father. These are legitimate concerns, but they're so clumsily contrived and familiar that the film lacks a contemporary legitimacy.

After suffering a critical and public lambasting with his last starring-directorial effort, *The Postman*, Costner has thankfully moved out from behind the camera and opted to tread more familiar waters as the flawed everyman that characterized his acting work in such films as *Bull Durham* and *Field of Dreams*. Costner is clearly at home with the material and delivers an effectual performance as a man racked with obsessive guilt. It's a role that would invite maudlin overtures,



Robin Wright stars as Theresa in *Message in a Bottle*. (Internet Photo)

but Costner inhabits his character with a sense of emotion that is more eloquent than any words in the script.

Kudos must be given to screenwriter Gerald DiPego for fleshing out the character of Costner's father, Dodge. Newman radiates each scene with his articulate, sharp sense of wit in a moving performance reminiscent of his fine work in *Nobody's Fool*.

Message in a Bottle is marked with moments of genuine sentiment, particularly in the scenes between Newman and Costner as the father attempts to help his son deal with his past tragedies and move on with his life. Moments such as these, however, are fleeting. Instead, the script crawls along with such sluggish calculation, the film becomes an exercise in unimaginative connect-the-dot plot devices.

If you didn't catch this film on Valentine's Day, then you probably missed the small window of opportunity to actually sit through this drivel. Fine performances aside, *Message in a Bottle* is best left on the beach. 1 2 3 4 5

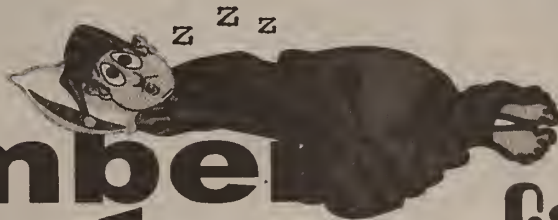
Prizes

Entertainment

Food

DSA

Slumber
Party



Games

PJ Contest

Hot Tub

Tues. Feb. 23, 7:00 pm
The Sanctuary

Sign Up at the DSA Office



Inspirations from India create art collection

By Elizabeth Sackrider
and Eileen Diniz

On one wall a massive crimson bull shoots out from a vivid jade background. On another, a sunflower bigger than a person reflects the sun.

This is the interior of artist Christopher Griffin's recently opened painting studio in Kitchener's downtown core.

"I thought we (Griffin and his wife) would come back here and see if we could make a go of it outside of Toronto," said Griffin whose hometown is Maryhill.

Griffin and his wife have moved back to Maryhill after living in Toronto for a couple of years.

Griffin said he was enthralled with images from his trip to eastern India and they inspired the entire collection he is currently working on.

The trip lasted two months and took Griffin and his wife into the remotest parts of India. He said he was disturbed by development plans that would destroy the culture of the area.

There are people there who have never seen white people and they are just going to wipe them out, he said.

"Just the tragedy of these people who have never been seen before," Griffin said. "It's a loss to their own culture and it's really a shame."

Since the inhabitants had never seen white people before, they



Christopher Griffin has painted the native life of remote parts of eastern Indian on small portrait-sized canvases.
(Photo by Elizabeth Sackrider)

were curious and amazed with Griffin's artist supplies.

He started painting them and it was an excellent icebreaker. The whole village watched as Griffin painted.

The brutal edge and raw power of the people is reflected in Griffin's depiction of them in his

paintings. Using a paintbrush on a broom handle and an artist's spatula he avoids any sense of refinery in his images.

He has dozens of portrait-sized paintings of these people in the earth tones of brown and green and a touch of vibrant red. The eyes capture a world unknown full

of hunting and nature.

"They are just visually beautiful people who have lots of feathers and bones through their noses," said Griffin.

The 1988 graduate of Sheridan College's illustration program takes advantage of the texture of oil paint and a subtractive

technique to produce works that are thick with bright primary colours and texture.

Standing six feet away from the canvas, Griffin uses an abstract painting style similar to the abstract style of the early expressionists in Germany.

The obvious influences for Griffin's work are the roughness of Van Gogh's *The Starry Night*, the primary colour usage of Matisse's *Red Room* and the diversity of Picasso.

Griffin worked as a book designer for a year and a half and then started painting full time in 1990. His works were displayed at the Homer Watson Gallery in May 1994. He also exhibited in Toronto, Winnipeg, Guatemala and Honduras.

"I have put on a lot of exhibitions," he said. "It's just a matter of finding the space."

Like most artists, Griffin likes his free space and said he would prefer to work outside when the weather gets warmer.

To earn a living, the artist sells his paintings to corporations and private collectors from Toronto and the United States.

His studio is open by appointment only but he doesn't mind people walking by and dropping in for a moment.

"I have the windows so I can put some work in there," he said. "If people walk by and come in that's a bonus."

Money for love at the Valentine Biz Bash

By Eileen Diniz

The Conestoga Business Student Association raised approximately \$500 at their Valentine's Biz Bash at Sammy's Garage in downtown Kitchener on Thursday, Feb. 11.

Approximately 350 people were in attendance.

Everyone received a ticket for the Wheel of Love at the door. Lucky ticket holders spun

the wheel for a chance to win a prize.

The first 200 ladies also received a rose.

"From the feedback we've received I would say everyone had a really good time at the dance," said Laurie Campbell, the CBSA communications co-ordinator and a third-year marketing student.

Music was provided by Sammy's DJ who played a variety of music

including Offspring, Britney Spears, Will Smith, Maestro and some oldies like Hey Mickey.

"It keeps the crowd going. If the music is all the same thing people tend to get bored," said Campbell.

The CBSA holds fundraisers (a primary source of funds) for equipment for the business programs.

They also raise money through

almond sales and bake sales.

The association usually holds a back-to-school bash, a Christmas bash, a Valentine's bash and an awards banquet bash.

This year they have also held a Halloween bash and the Nicholson and Gage fundraiser which raised money for a memorial to Const. Dave Nicholson and Mark Gage

who died at the Parkhill dam last summer.

This year the CBSA has held two more than usual because they have borrowed money to upgrade the computers in the business lab.

The final biz bash will be on April 13 at Stages Nightclub in downtown Kitchener following the annual awards banquet.



From left to right Christa Bilton, Jennifer Rawlins, Fatima Carvamo, Kristi Mason, Laurie Campbell and Chad Allison stand in front of the wheel of love at the Valentine Biz Bash.
(Photo by Eileen Diniz)

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Learning Disabilities

There has been considerable attention paid to the term "Learning Disability" in the past few years as educators become increasingly aware of the individual needs of students. The term was coined in the 1960's to describe people who, while having average or above average abilities, exhibited difficulty learning in one of the basic academic areas such as reading, writing, or mathematics. Since that time, considerable research has helped us to identify and classify what a learning disability is, how to diagnose this problem, and how to help individuals who have a learning disability.

Research has taught us that:

- Learning disabilities affect about 2-5% of students.
- Learning disabled students show a marked difference in what they are capable of learning and their achievement in certain areas.
- Learning disabled students do well in college and university programs given the right kind of support.
- There are tests and procedures that can help identify the exact nature of the disability.
- There are strategies that can be used to help overcome a learning disability.
- While everyone has different leaning styles, learning disabilities are marked areas of difficulty.